



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
San Francisco District

Project Map

MARE ISLAND STRAIT DREDGING EXPANSION
CALIFORNIA

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS: 7th District, Rep. George Miller

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The study area is located in Vallejo, California, about 25 miles northeast of San Francisco, and is adjacent to the previous site of the Mare Island Naval Shipyard and the existing Mare Island Strait Federal Navigation Channel. The Rivers and Harbors Act of 8 August 1917 first authorized a Federal channel. The channel has never been dredged to its fully authorized width. The currently authorized depth is 30-feet. In accordance with a Department of Army Memorandum of Understanding, the Corps maintained the channel to 36-feet for U.S. Navy use until 1995, at which time the Navy notified the Corps that the channel was no longer needed for Naval operations.

FISCAL YEAR 02 BUDGET: \$0

PRESENT STATUS: The Water Resources Development Act of 1999 authorized the Corps to prepare a General Re-Evaluation Report on this project to "*consider the benefits of economic activity associated with potential future uses of the channel and any other benefits that could be realized by increasing the width and depth of the channel to accommodate both current and potential future uses of the channel*". The analysis indicates inefficiencies in shipping operations do not occur as a result of inadequate channel depth, but because of a lack of maintenance near the locally-maintained dock facilities. No Federal interest, therefore, can be identified to expand the channel width and depth beyond the limits of the currently maintained channel.

FUTURE EFFORTS: No efforts are anticipated in the near future in light of the lack of Federal interest. Federal interest may be reevaluated once the sponsor prepares a development plan for the Mare Island facility. Interest has been expressed in waterfront planning assistance if funds can be secured and if language contained in Section 406 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1999 can be modified to remove the requirement to restrict economic development benefits to those associated with channel dimension modification.